

PROJECT MANAGER RETURNS; EVERYTHING IN GOOD SHAPE

(By Benjamin Franklin Fly)

Project Manager Lawson is back on the job, having returned from his trip to San Francisco where he attended the International convention of civil engineers.

Strange as it may seem, yet nevertheless true, his good wife did not present him with a "baby boy" as reported by my woolly, woody friend as a scoop, at least the genial project manager says he neither saw or heard anything of the "baby boy" tho Mrs. Lawson was with him all the time he was absent. Otherwise Mr. Lawson is feeling quite well; enjoyed his trip to the utmost, but returns to Yuma project more sanguine than ever that Yuma is the best place in America.

In his absence Acting Project Manager Priest not only found the prettiest little girl baby in the whole county, but he "slipped one over" by completing the new gas pumping plant on the bank of the canal, which is now pumping siphon canal water to the lands in the upper Yuma valley too high to be irrigated by the regular gravity system. He also found that much of the work of clearing the drift wood and rubbish from Laguna dam had been done under the personal supervision of Supt. of the Dam Jack Levake, and that everything went along smoothly in every department while he was on his vacation.

In connection with the new pumping station, one of the first improvements ordered by Manager Lawson after taking charge of the affairs of the project, here's a good one on my friend, Arizona Charlie Meadows:

Before the new pumping plant was put in operation all the water for the "high lands" in upper Yuma valley was pumped direct from the river. This was so thick with sand, mud and silt that it was filling up the ditches about as fast as they could be cleaned out. Mr. Lawson's attention was called to it just about the day he took charge of the project.

"I'll remedy that right away," he said to Arizona Charlie.

"How?" asked the latter.

"By putting in a new pumping plant on the bank of the siphon canal, where half of the silt is removed from the water by means of the settling basin at Laguna dam," replied the project manager.

But Arizona Charlie had no faith in the promise. He had an idea that the same system would be followed by the new manager that had been so long in vogue under the "extinguished manager."

"How do you like the new pumping system," I asked Arizona Charlie this morning.

"It makes me as mad as the devil every time I think of it," was his astonishing reply.

"How's that," I asked.

"Well, its just this way," declared Arizona Charlie. "Under the old management we irrigated on union labor 8 hour day schedule. The pump began sending the silt and sand down to us at 8 a. m. By the time it got to run it was about noon. By the time I got it well started down the rows or across my alfalfa it was quitting time—for the pump stopped on the minute. We could sleep all afternoon and all night, for ther was no irrigating water to bother us."

"But just look at it now!" said my friend with a merry twinkle in each eye. "That man Lawson keeps that durned pump going all the time! He gives us all the water we can use, and it has only half the silt in it that we used to get. We are even made to watch it at night, just like other people—in fact he done just what he said he would. I honestly believe he's crazy—but crazy like a fox. Mad! Yes, I'm the maddest man in Yuma county—nit!"

At 1:30 today Project Manager Lawson, Major L. C. Scherer, of the 8th U. S. cavalry, Assistant Project Manager Ray Priest, Lieutenant Sampson, and yours truly for good measure, went to Laguna dam, so the army officer could see its beauties and wonders. Major Scherer is en route to El Paso from Manila, his regiment having just changed posts with the 15th Cavalry that passed through Yuma last Sunday. He will be here a day or two, the guest of the local army post, being entertained last night by Lieut. C. L. Sampson.

STUDENTS PUBLISH GOOD MORNING DAILY

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 29.—A real morning newspaper, similar in make-up and editorial style to professional sheets, is published by the students at the University of Southern California, appearing four days a week. It is called the "Trojan," and is edited under the direction of the university's new department of journalism.

LITTLE BUSINESS NOW FOR FEDERAL COURT

Clarence Lindeman, one of Yuma's youngest and liveliest attorneys returned today from Phoenix, where he went several days ago on legal business. Mr. Lindeman was very much interested in the status of the criminal docket as shown by the calendar of the U. S. docket, which opens next Monday at the capital city.

A special feature is that there is nothing startling on the docket, said Mr. Lindeman. The term calendar issued yesterday discloses little over which to get excited. Among the cases pending are but three instances of that formerly abundant thing—the indictment for the sale of liquor to Indians. The defendants are Miguel Angelo Bardino, Jesus Hernandez and Pomposo Juarz.

A grand jury will be impanelled Monday morning to review a comparatively small number of true bills, and the trial jury will get itself organized for the same day.

The list of criminal actions so far set comprise several violations of the Chinese opium and smuggling laws, a white slavery charge, several "felony" charges against W. E. Gibbons, ex-reclamation official, and the matters of the bootleggers caught at the outset of Sheriff Adams' big raid last spring. Charges of selling liquor without the retail special government tag are placed against Denny Faught, J. F. Sanders, Jack McCord, George Mullen, Frankie and William Gammell, George Holmes, Henry Rosenstein and R. O. Feddersen.

A rather long civil docket awaits the court.

MUSIC FESTIVAL AT 'FRISCO EXPOSITION

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Sept. 29.—Many music lovers throughout the country have timed their visit to the Panama-Pacific so as to be here for the big annual music festival, which is to hold forth in Festival Hall during the remainder of this week. The festival promises to be the most notable affair of its kind ever given on the Pacific coast.

GOVERNMENT SITS DOWN ON SQUATTERS

The occupancy of any of the public lands of the state without a permit from the land department is illegal, and persons occupying such lands acquire no rights to any improvements they may make, according to an opinion of the attorney general transmitted to the state land department yesterday.

New Magazines at Shoreys.

GEORGIA PLANS FOR HER NEW HIGHWAYS

MACON, Ga., Sept. 29.—The most ambitious plan yet suggested for the development of a system of improved highways for Georgia is to be considered and acted upon at the annual conference of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, which assembled here today with an attendance of delegates from all over the state. The conference has set aside an entire day for the discussion of the good roads problem. The plan to receive attention calls for the building of twelve modern highways, radiating from Macon to the borders of the state.

UNIQUE RECEIVERSHIP OF COTTON IN TEXAS

HOUSTON, Tex., Sept. 29.—Probably one of the most remarkable receiverships on record in the United States has been established here by Judge Burns of the Federal court. He has appointed Judge Henry L. Borden receiver of the bales of cotton washed from railroad platforms, warehouses and other places during the recent Gulf hurricane and scattered along the coast for a distance of more than one hundred miles. It is stated that more than one million bales of cotton are involved in the receivership. Much of it came from the shipping docks and warehouses in Galveston. It was swept across the bay by the wind and water, landing many miles inland in some instances. It will be the duty of Judge Borden to gather up the scattered bales, pass upon the question of ownership and to settle any contesting claims that may arise.

NIGHT BASEBALL IN BROOKLYN BY FEDS

NEW YORK, Sept. 29.—Washington Park, Brooklyn, is scheduled to stage tonight the first game of night baseball ever served up for the enjoyment of the baseball fans of the metropolis. The Brooklyn and Buffalo teams of the Federal league are to furnish the entertainment. A similar venture was launched some years ago in Chicago by Charles Comiskey and failed of success. The modern development in lighting facilities, however, are expected to aid greatly in the success of the present venture. The Brooklyn management believes tha baseball at night will pay better than baseball in the day time, for the reason that the working classes will have a better opportunity to attend.

Arthur J. B. Apsey, former Gadsden restaurant man, who has been ill at the Yuma hospital for some weeks, is out again.